

Robert E. Fitch High School

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To Whom it May Concern

We are writing to you because we, student leaders, believe very strongly in the institution of an ordinance prohibiting the sale of drug paraphernalia in our gas stations and convenience stores.

We've seen glass pipes, water pipes (bongs), hookas, scales for use in selling marijuana and cleaning solutions and detoxification drinks that reference drug use. Some stores keep these items right near the front door in a glass case for everyone to see. Even our younger siblings see these items. Should an 8 year old going into a convenience store to buy a candy bar have to be exposed to drug paraphernalia? What message does that send to our youth?

We disagree with the premise that drug paraphernalia is being sold under the false claim and legal loophole that it is meant for tobacco use only. We know that is simply not true. Who smokes tobacco out of a water pipe? Why do you need a scale for tobacco? Why is there "Detox Buster" being sold other cleaning solutions with "420" on them?

We feel that when these items are marketed in plain sight and readily available it sends the message that drug use is acceptable and the "norm" in our community.

As student leaders who are involved with Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and GASP Street Team, we feel that the removal of these smoking accessories, used for smoking marijuana will create a healthier and safer environment for youth.

We are in full support of any ordinance, local or regional, that helps remove drug paraphernalia from convenience stores and gas stations.

Sincerely,

Fitch High School SADD Chapter

Achieve More, Care More